Welcome to the

XVII Infopoverty World Conference

21 April 2017, United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 12, New York

OCCAM
Infopoverty Programme

Parlamento europeo
Ufficio d'informazione
a Milano

TRANSFERRING KNOWLEDGE AND ADEQUATE TECHNOLOGIES: THE WAY TO COMBAT POVERTY AND MAKE THE WORLD SAFER

Livestreamed on UNTV

PRESENTATION

The Infopoverty World Conference, organized by OCCAM with the patronage of the European Parliament Information Office in Milan since 2001 on the wave of the proclamation of the Millennium Development Goals, points out yearly at the United Nations Headquarters in New York the most innovative solutions and the best practices elaborated with the United Nations system, governments and the civil society, to empower the fight to poverty. The Conference represents, for its continuity, operational capability and strong interoperability with the UN system, a unique global forum gathering leading experts, academics, opinion leaders, managers, government officials, philanthropists.

In particular, it has given rise to the Infopoverty Programme, which promotes and realizes actions on the ground using the ICTs as tools of development, having created the UN Millennium Village in Sambaina (Madagascar) and ICT Villages in Honduras, South Lebanon, Navajo Nation and Ethiopia.

The previous editions of our conference, collected in the E-book "15 Years of Infopoverty World Conference (2001-2015)", and especially the most recent, led to the launch of two institutions which serve as a model for new practices, e-MedMed and the World Food Security e-Center, capable to provide directly to communities in need Telemedicine, e-Learning, e-Training and e-agriculture services through a global digital platform.

After seventeen years of work and practical engagement in cooperation with the main stakeholders of the digital revolution worldwide, we are committed to discover and apply easier, low-cost and adequate solutions to meet the real needs of people with smart technologies. Everyday innovations create different scenarios and opportunities. The arising global connectivity made possible by the spreading use of mobile phones and smartphones is changing intimately people's life, reshaping communities, governance, and social relationships. As the observatory of digital revolution, OCCAM, launching with its partners the 17th edition of the Infopoverty World Conference, focuses the debate's attention on the high inequality of the development of ICT innovations which are generally destined to wealthy end-users' markets rather than to social growth, failing to offer solutions to fight poverty, hunger, health and to achieve universal education as stated by SDGs, cornerstone of the Infopoverty Programme.
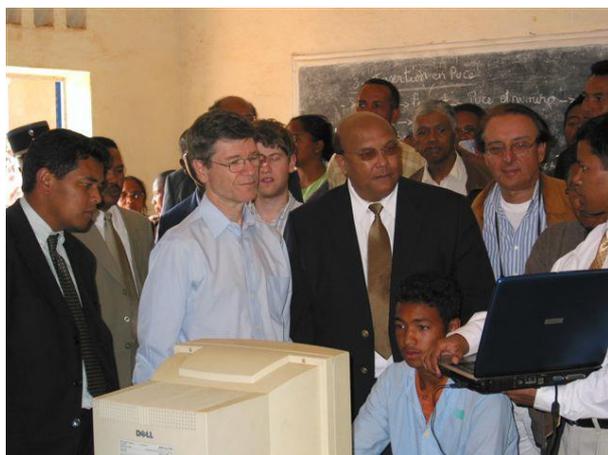
Welcome to the

XVII Infopoverty World Conference

21 April 2017, United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 12, New York

OCCAM
Infopoverty Programme

Parlamento europeo
Ufficio d'informazione
a Milano

How to overcome this handicap is the main theme of the 17th Infopoverty World Conference, providing concrete facts and best practices able to prove that digital services designed in line with the socio-economic development needs of the most disadvantaged populations could lead to relevant results in terms of health, food security, education, climate change, etc. Such solutions are particularly effective if powered by sensors of next generations, robotic devices and innovative methods by public and private operators, NGOs, IGOs, public or private institutions. It is of crucial importance for us to learn to think digital, which means to require clarity, transparency, effectiveness, active participation, community spirit, creativity, fellowship, beyond borders, cultures and the limits of knowledge, in order to develop the human resources with a massive transfer of technologies and knowledge, which make them able to create wealth for communities.

We appeal thus to the best entrepreneurial spirits, researchers, governments and institutions to join the 17th Infopoverty World Conference to find the best solutions for translating the vision of a truly global information society into reality, and to launch the concrete message that it is absolutely possible and it is a duty to eradicate poverty and make the world safer. NOW!

Prof. Ghazal between Mr. Saporito and H.E. Rahaman
Above: Prof. Sorlini between Mr. Sanorito and H.E. Rahaman

Attending audience
Above: Mr. Ikeno, Mr. Sanorito and Mrs. Palermo

Welcome to the

XVII Infopoverty World Conference

21 April 2017, United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 12, New York

OCCAM
Infopoverty Programme

Parlamento europeo
Ufficio d'informazione
a Milano

DRAFT AGENDA

April 21, 2016 New York, UN Headquarters, Conference Room 12

10:00-10:30 – Opening Session

Speakers will include H.E. Sebastiano Cardi, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, and a high level official of the United Nations.

General Introduction by Pierpaolo Saporito, OCCAM President

New York, UN Headquarters **Conference Room 12** **10.30-12:00**	**Milan** **Videoconference** **16.30-18:00**

First Session
HOW ICTs CAN CONTRIBUTE TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: THE WORLD FOOD SECURITY e-CENTER

During the UNFCCC COP22 in Marrakech, the World Food Security e-Center already discussed during the last edition of the Infopoverty World Conference has been finally validated as an ICT flagship project for rural development in emerging countries, mitigation of the migrant emergency, new opportunities of job creation and empowerment of local structures to fight poverty and hunger in the spirit of UN Sustainable Development Goals. As a follow-up to its endorsement, this special session will witness the presentation and inauguration of the Center, aimed at providing assistance to the more disadvantaged communities with regard to food security, through the creation of a bridge between specialised institutions that work as service providers and public and private institutions that will be the service users. This bridge is constituted by a technological platform that will assure the connectivity and the complete functionality of the Center.

The session will be simultaneously chaired by the Director of the European Parliament Information Office, Bruno Marasà, and the Director of the UNCCD Office in New York, Melchiade Bukuru, Chief of the Liaison Office of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in New York. Speakers of this session will include eminent representatives from local institutions, scientists and academics, Members of the European Parliament and UN Officials.

New York, UN Headquarters, Conference Room 12

12:00-13:00 – Second Session

HEALTH FOR ALL: THE ROLE OF TELEMEDICINE IN TRANSFERRING SKILLS TO VILLAGES

The previous experience of the Infopoverty Programme in the creation of ICT Villages, including the UN Millennium Village of Sambaina in Madagascar, proved that advanced clinical tests can decisively improve the life condition of disadvantaged communities by linking the most innovative centres directly to villages, thus saving lives, crops and livestocks through new protocols of distant care, ready to be launched in Sierra Leone and other countries along with correlated actions to prevent diseases by improving the quality of nutrition.

New York, UN Headquarters, Conference Room 12

14:30-16:00 – Third Session

THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION: MOVING FROM SMART CITIES TO ICT VILLAGES TO EMPOWER PEOPLE'S LIVES

This session will work as a forum to debate, discuss and promote new technological solutions for development in order to help disadvantaged communities and ensure an effective achievement of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals through the employment of ICTs. Nowadays, the industrial trend is focused to serve only a minority of the global population, thus overlooking the needs of the most economically and socially marginalised cities and countries. It is therefore right and proper to take into account these needs, and the role of ICTs proves here to be on one side an essential guarantee for a concrete development of these communities, and on the other side a great opportunity for corporations and producers of technological devices to open new and promising markets in order to make urban communities greener and more sustainable and, at the same time, empower rural areas with urban services.

Speakers and discussants in this session will include representatives of main industries and research centres, as well as officials from public and private institutions. It will also host representatives from the UN Procurement offices as catalysts of the new demand for technological devices for development.

16:00-17:30 – Fourth Session

BUILDING A PLATFORM FOR THE SHARING OF KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGIES

This new paradigm could change the relationship between poor and wealthy people, donors and recipients, challenging everybody to express each his own identity choosing the best way to develop hidden capacities.

Considering the global financial crisis and the increasing difficulty in transferring money, with loans ever heavier, it is clear that if we could better valorise our large patrimony of knowledge, putting this at the disposal of those in need, we can accelerate the achievement of SDGs, through an intensive and innovative use of new smart and low cost technologies

The session will explore, with main stakeholders, government, the UN System, academia and civil society representatives, the best way to start action together, to act fast to achieve these goals.

17:30-18:00 - Fifth Session:

CONCLUSIVE ROUNDTABLE and ENDORSEMENT OF THE FINAL DECLARATION OF THE 17th IWC

to formulate the results of the Conference and define them in the traditional final declaration, which will be delivered to the entire UN-System and the Governments.

HISTORY OF THE CONFERENCE

1st Infopoverty World Conference 2001: "Possible Solutions"

- Official launch of the Infopoverty Programme
- Creation of two ICT Village in Honduras, in the communities of San Ramon and San Francisco Lempira after Hurricane Mitch

2nd Infopoverty World Conference 2002: "From possible solution to action"

- Creating Community Center of Access in the two communities in Honduras
- Delivery of the first e-services for distance education and training

3rd Infopoverty World Conference 2003: "New tools and best practices"

- Creation of an ICT Village in Meiss el Jabal, Lebanon, in support of the peacekeeping actions of the United Nations
- Agreement with the ITU and the Navajo Nation for the creation of a portal for the indigenous community Navajo

4th Infopoverty World Conference 2004: "New frontiers of ICTs: services for development"

- Launch of the Infopoverty Institute at the University of Oklahoma
- Development of ICT Village Model for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) , Tunis 2005

5th Infopoverty World Conference 2005: "New frontiers of ICTs: services for development"

- Implementation of ICT Village in the community of Borj Touil in Tunisia
- Launch of the Ville-Village Programme,to twin cities of developed countries with villages of emerging countries

7th Infopoverty World Conference 2006: "Fighting poverty to create prosperity for all"

- Implementation of ICT Village in Sambaina , Madagascar, proclaimed Millennium Village by the United Nations
- Collaboration with Jeffrey Sachs for the Madagascar National Plan

8th Infopoverty World Conference 2007: "Harnessing the use of ICTs towards the Millennium Development Goals"

- Start of the Ville- Village Project, twinning Sambaina (Madagascar) and Lodi (Italy), which benefits 1,500 students and 300 adults in Madagascar
- E-health training to 85 people in Madagascar on the use of ultrasound technology, including doctors, nurses and midwives

8th Infopoverty World Conference 2008: "Low-cost - smart technologies to fight poverty and save the planet"

- Creation of theI nfopoverty Satellite Platform of e-services, able to provide Broad Band connection to ICT Villages and other projects related to the ICT4D
- First Infopoverty Exhibition at the Milan Fair

9th Infopoverty World Conference 2009 "ICTs ' good use, abuse, refuse towards the MDGs"

- Creation of the Infopoverty Network of Villages in Africa and Latin America
- Diffusion of the Ville-Village Model project
- Support to 23 initiatives presented during the Conference
- Infopoverty Exhibition at the ECOSOC Innovation Fair in Geneva

10thInfopoverty World Conference 2010: "How the digital revolution can defeat poverty and Achieve the MDGs"

- Launch of the telemedicine project for the community of Mahobong in Lesotho
- Launch of e- agriculture project for the community of Mahobong in Lesotho
- Launch of e-commerce project for the community of Villa El Salvador in Peru
- Infopoverty Seminar at the UN Commission on Science and Technologies for Development, Geneva

11th Infopoverty World Conference 2011: "E-services: new paradigms for development and the achievement of the MDGs"

- Support for 30 projects and actions promoted by the participants of the Conference
- Creation of an ad hoc committee responsible for the actions of: networking with the major service providers; training; scientific support, identification and creation of devices in wireless technology for enabling e-services in remote communities.

12th Infopoverty World Conference 2012: "Who drives the digital revolution"

• Launch of the Euro-Mediterranean Platform of Digital Services
• Collaboration for the definition of the National Digital Plan with the governments of Liberia , Lesotho, Ecuador and Ethiopia

13th Infopoverty World Conference 2013: "Information Technology - Innovation for national building and the empowerment of people"

• Activation of the Global Platform for Digital Services
• Creation of a network of service providers in the fields of telemedicine, food security and e-learning
• Promotion of the eMedMed to the Union for the Mediterranean, to support the process of democratization following the Arab Spring

14th Infopoverty World Conference 2014: "How the digital innovations can accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and help launch the Sustainable Development Goals"

• Launch of the telemedicine eMedMed projects on Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Libya
• Promotion of the Food Security World E-Center in the ambit of Milan EXPO 2015
• Support to the small island program on E-learning for all
• Elaboration of the Timor Leste digital Center for Development

15th Infopoverty World Conference 2015: "Next Sustainable Development Goals: the challenge before the Digital Era"

• Assurance that the outcomes of EXPO Milan 2015 and the participatory processes leading to the Milan Charter will be built upon in the definition of national and international political agendas focused on food and food education
• Pursuance of a policy of aggregation of ICTs projects into an enterprise platform of structured data
• Definition of the follow-up for the E-MedMed and World Food Security e-Center projects.

16th Infopoverty World Conference 2016: "ICTs as the tools for everyone to achieve dignity and freedom"

• Validation of the WFSeC as a new institution able to be an effective instrument to fight hunger, inviting all the participants to support it, activating in his country or organizations related points of expertise.
• Assumption of the conference as an Operative Community, developing a great convergence to improve the evolution of the ICTs from market-oriented to people-centred, able to accelerate the achievement of SDGs, encouraging the role of women and those of the young generation to lead this process.
• Offer the UN system the access to the Global Platform of Digital Services as implemented, with the contribution of the stakeholders

REGISTRATION

If you are interested in participating in the 17th Infopoverty World Conference, please fill out the form at bit.ly/iwcregform and contact us at occam@occam.org

CONTACTS

General Coordination: OCCAM HQ
Via Duccio di Boninsegna, 21
20145 Milano - Italy
Tel. +39 02 8057573

occam@occam.org
www.occam.org | www.infopoverty.net
www.facebook.com/occam.milano
www.twitter.com/occam_milano

Permanent Representative to UN –NY
Toshihiko Murata
toshi@muratas.org

Permanent Representative to UN -Geneva:
Inge Leutscher
il@excellence-international.ch

For further information, see also
www.infopoverty.net | bit.ly/rewatch16IWC | tinyurl.com/IWC-eBook